

# Introduction to Tourism and Its Impacts

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# A) Introduction to Tourism

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The world is a book, he who stays at home reads only one page.

# Tourism – World's Biggest Industry

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- World's number one export earner
    - Tourism ..... 9%
    - Crude Petroleum and Petroleum Products 7%
    - Passengers road vehicles and their parts 5.5%
    - Electronic Equipment ..... 4%
    - Mining ..... 3.5%
  - Significant average annual percentage growth rate
    - Tourism ..... 12%
    - Commercial Services ..... 12%
    - Merchandise exports ..... 10%
  - Major contributor to global economic development, creating employment, and generating wealth
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# Historical Perspective

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- Mass Tourism began in the years immediately after WWII
    - Rising standards of living
    - Increased leisure time
    - Development in transportation
  - The origins of tourism can be traced much further back
    - Trade
    - Religious and spiritual purposes
    - Festivals and sport events
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# Tourism Today

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- International tourism arrivals reached an all time record of 1.035 billion in 2012
  - Growth over 2011 corresponds to 5%
  - Worldwide earning on International Tourism reached in 2012 a new record value of US\$ 1035 Trillion.
  - International arrivals are expected to reach over 1.56 billion by the year 2020.
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# Top 10 Tourism Destinations

International Tourist Arrivals (2012) In Million People		
1	France	83.0
2	United States	67.0
3	China	57.7
4	Spain	57.7
5	Italy	46.4
6	Turkey	35.7
7	Germany	30.4
8	United Kingdom	29.3
9	Russia	25.7
10	Malaysia	25.0

International Tourism Receipts (2012) In Billion Dollars		
1	United States	126.2
2	Spain	55.9
3	France	53.7
4	China	50.0
5	Italy	41.2
6	Germany	38.1
7	United Kingdom	36.4
8	Australia	31.5
9	Thailand	30.0
10	Turkey	25.6

# Defining Tourism

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- ... the activities of persons traveling to and staying in places outside their usual environment for not more than one consecutive year for leisure, business, and other purposes. (WTO 1993, UNSTAT 1994)
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# Different Types of Tourism

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- Domestic tourism: Residents of a country traveling within their own country
  - Inbound tourism: Non-residents traveling in the given country
  - Outbound tourism: Residents traveling in another country
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# Purpose of Travel

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- Leisure tourism
    - Holidays
    - Health and fitness
    - Sport
    - Religion
    - Education
    - Cultural
  - Visiting friends and relatives (VFR)
  - Business tourism
    - Conferences and training events
    - Business meetings
    - Exhibitions
    - Trade fairs
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# B) Impacts of Tourism

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- Economic Impacts
- Environmental Impacts
- Socio-Cultural Impacts

# Economic Impacts

## Positive

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- International level
    - Tourism generated US\$ 623 billion in earnings and contributed over 10% of global Gross Domestic Product
    - In 2006, tourism employs 385 million people (11.1% of the world's labor)
  - National level
    - Tourism contribution to GNP: Tourism dominates economic activities in many countries such as Caribbean islands. Anguilla (90% of GNP), Antigua and Barbuda (87% of GNP)
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# Economic Impacts

## Positive

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- Regional and local levels
    - Injecting revenue into urban and rural areas
    - Creating employment opportunities
    - Stimulating the creation of new business enterprises
    - Contributing towards extra inward investment through the promotion of a positive image of an area
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# Economic Impacts

## Positive

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- Summary
    - Wealth generation
    - Employment creation
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# Economic Impacts

## Negative

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- The loss of labor from traditional, primary industries
  - Price rises in destination areas
  - Local shops are lost in favor of tourist outlets
  - Displacement effect
    - The development of infrastructure and facilities for tourism can divert resources away from other capital projects
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# Environmental Impacts

## Negative

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- Water supply
  - Physical erosion
    - Wearing away of natural features such as river banks, mountain passes, soil and vegetation
    - Destruction of archeological sites and historic monuments
  - Water pollution
    - Poorly managed sewage treatment and waste disposal processes
  - Loss of wildlife habitats
    - Ecological destruction due to overuse
  - Waste disposal (Littering)
  - Air pollution
  - Noise pollution
    - Overcrowding
    - Different modes of tourism transport
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# Environmental Impacts

## Positive

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- Conservation of natural and built resources
    - National parks
    - Ancient monuments
  - Improvement of general environment of a destination
    - Amenity planting in public parks and gardens
    - Upgraded 'street furniture' (lighting, public seating and litter bins)
    - Improved signage
    - Clearance of derelict land
    - Renovations to buildings
  - Exposure of detrimental environmental activities in remote areas
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# Socio-cultural Impacts

## Negative

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- ❑ Overcrowding
  - ❑ Distortion of local customs
    - Commercialized and stylized presentation
  - ❑ Loss of native languages
  - ❑ Loss of traditional crafts and industries
    - Such as fishing, forestry, mining, and agriculture
  - ❑ Fragmentation of communities
    - Tourist areas may develop large communities of second home owners and expatriates
  - ❑ Alterations to religious codes
  - ❑ Rise in social problems
    - Tourists may behave badly
    - Temptation of tourism can lead local people into increased criminal activity including fraud, prostitution, drug abuse, and vandalism
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# Socio-Cultural Impacts

## Positive

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- ❑ Meeting new people and learning about different cultures
  - ❑ Contribution to conservation of an area's cultural heritage
  - ❑ Enhanced program of cultural and social events
  - ❑ Formation of more sports and leisure facilities
  - ❑ Instilling a sense of pride in local residents
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